

Subject

377 A

OGC Has Reviewed

31 March 1952

The Honorable Lindsay G. Warren
Comptroller General of the United States
Washington 25, D. C.

My dear Mr. Warren:

We have received your letter of February 26, 1952 (your reference B-02461) concerning the claim of the United States against [REDACTED] in the amount of \$50.00.

This claim arose when [REDACTED] was in the Office of Strategic Services and is based on an advance in that amount for which he failed to account. As you are aware, the Office of Strategic Services no longer exists, and this Agency has been granted custody and control of certain of its records. We have made a careful search of these records, and although we find an entry showing that the advance was made to [REDACTED] the records do not contain a receipt.

In your letter to us you requested that we give you the name of the person who made the advance to [REDACTED] if no receipt was available. After careful consideration and consultation with our security officers, we regret that we cannot do this.

At the time that the claim against [REDACTED] was referred to your office, we, of course, appreciated that you and the Department of Justice would require additional information to prove the claim in court. The question was carefully considered at that time, and our security officers advised us that we could furnish such information without compromising our security.

This decision was based, among other things, on the fact that certain of [REDACTED] associates and superiors who had knowledge of the advance had left the Government service. Since then, they have become associated with this Agency in a highly sensitive capacity, and their testimony concerning the [REDACTED] claim, indicating their previous connection with the Office of Strategic Services, would compromise the security of their present assignments.

In view of this, we have reluctantly determined that it is no longer in the best interest of the Government to pursue the claim against [REDACTED]. We regret that we have burdened your office

with this claim which we can no longer support due to the changed circumstances outlined above.

Sincerely yours,

Lawrence R. Houston
General Counsel

OGC/LRH/JFBM:mb

Distribution:

Orig & 1 - Addressee
25X1A 1 - [REDACTED] with orig. of let from Comp. Gen. to
him, 2/26/52
25X1A 1 - I&S, Att: [REDACTED]
✓ 1 - Subject with copy of let. of 2/26/52 above
1 - Chrono